

a.) Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1-41 (Cancelled).

42. (New) A method of producing a lubricated tablet, comprising the steps of:

selecting a granule containing an active substance, said granule bearing a coating film;

preparing a molding material by uniformly mixing said granule and a diluting agent, said molding material not containing a lubricant;

selecting a tableting machine comprising a die and a pair of up and down punches; said die and pair of up and down punches being lubricated;

operating said tableting machine to press said molding material and produce compressed tablets of said molding material without destroying said granule bearing a coating film, wherein said lubricant is greater than or equal to 0.0001 weight percent and less than or equal to 0.2 weight percent per tablet and provided essentially only on a surface thereof.

43. (New) The method according to claim 42, wherein said die and pair of up and down punches are lubricated by the steps comprising:

housing said die and pair of up and down punch in a spray chamber, and spraying lubricant onto the surfaces of said die and pair of punches utilizing pulsating vibration air.

44. (New) A method of producing a lubricated tablet, comprising the steps of:

selecting a granule containing an active substance, said granule comprising a base matrix which is a water-insoluble or hydrophobic high molecular material;

preparing a molding material by uniformly mixing said granule and a diluting agent, said molding material not containing a lubricant;

selecting a tableting machine comprising a die and a pair of up and down punches, said die and pair of up and down punches being lubricated;

operating said tableting machine to press said molding material and produce compressed tablets of said molding material without destroying said granule, wherein said lubricant is greater than or equal to 0.0001 weight percent and less than or equal to 0.2 weight percent per tablet and provided essentially only on a surface thereof.

45. (New) The method according to claim 44, wherein said die and pair of up and down punches are lubricated by the steps comprising:

housing said die and pair of up and down punch in a spray chamber, and spraying lubricant onto the surfaces of said die and pair of punches utilizing pulsating vibration air.

46. (New) The method according to any one of claims 42 to 45, wherein said diluting agent is granular.

47. (New) The method according to claim 42 or 43, wherein said coating film enhances release in intestine.

48. (New) The method according to claim 42 or 43, wherein said coating film prevents bitter taste.

49. (New) The method according to claim 42 or 43, wherein said coating film enhances sustained release.

50. (New) The method according to claim 44 or 45, wherein said base matrix enhances release in intestine.

51. (New) The method according to claim 44 or 45, wherein said base matrix prevents bitter taste.

52. (New) The method according to claim 44 or 45, wherein said base matrix enhances sustained release.

53. (New) A compressed lubricated tablet produced by the process according to any one of claims 42-45.

54. (New) A tablet with lubricant, comprising:
a compressed mixture of (i) a granule containing an active substance and bearing a coating film with (ii) a diluting agent, said compressed mixture containing essentially no lubricant, wherein said lubricant is provided essentially only on the surface of said tablet, wherein said granule bearing a coating film is intact and said lubricant is greater than or equal to 0.0001 weight percent and less than or equal to 0.2 weight percent per tablet.

55. (New) A tablet with lubricant, comprising:
a compressed mixture of (i) a granule containing an active substance and (ii) a diluting agent; said compressed mixture containing essentially no lubricant and

said granule comprising a base matrix which is a water-insoluble or hydrophobic high molecular material, wherein said lubricant is provided essentially only on the surface of said tablet, said granule being intact and said lubricant is greater than or equal to 0.0001 weight percent and less than or equal to 0.2 weight percent per tablet.

56. (New) The tablet according to claim 54 or 55, wherein said diluting agent is granular.

57. (New) The tablet according to claim 54, wherein said coating film enhances release in intestine.

58. (New) The method according to claim 54, wherein said coating film prevents bitter taste.

59. (New) The method according to claim 54, wherein said coating film enhances sustained release.

60. (New) The tablet according to claim 55, wherein said base matrix enhances release in intestine.

61. (New) The method according to claim 55, wherein said base matrix prevents bitter taste.

62. (New) The method according to claim 55, wherein said base matrix enhances sustained release.

63. (New) A method for enhancing function of a compressed tablet, comprising the steps of:

- selecting a granule containing an active substance, said granule bearing a coating film;
- preparing a molding material by uniformly mixing said granule with a diluting agent, said molding material containing essentially no lubricant;
- selecting a tableting machine comprising a die and a pair of up and down punches, said die and pair of up and down punches being lubricated;
- operating said tableting machine to press said molding material and produce compressed tablets of said molding material without destroying said granule, wherein said lubricant is greater than or equal to 0.0001 weight percent and less than or equal to 0.2 weight percent per tablet and is provided essentially only on a surface thereof.

64. (New) A method for enhancing a function of a compressed tablet, comprising the steps of:

- selecting a granule containing an active substance, said granule comprising a base matrix which is a water-insoluble or hydrophobic high molecular material;
- preparing a molding material by uniformly mixing said granule with a diluting agent, said molding material containing essentially no lubricant;
- selecting a tableting machine comprising a die and a pair of up and down punches, said die and pair of up and down punches being lubricated;
- operating said tableting machine to press said molding material and produce compressed tablets of said molding material without destroying said granule, wherein said lubricant is greater than or equal to 0.0001 weight percent and less than or equal to 0.2 weight percent per tablet and is provided essentially only on a surface thereof.

65. (New) The tablet according to claim 63, wherein said coating film enhances release in intestine.

66. (New) The method according to claim 63, wherein said coating film prevents bitter taste.

67. (New) The method according to claim 63, wherein said coating film enhances sustained release.

68. (New) The tablet according to claim 64, wherein said base matrix enhances release in intestine.

69. (New) The method according to claim 64, wherein said base matrix prevents bitter taste.

70. (New) The method according to claim 64, wherein said base matrix enhances sustained release.